

cause somebody decided to push the entertainment value of the plants."

ONE THING IS CERTAIN—THAT easy-to-miss entrance is about to get a lot easier to find. Lighted signs and landscaping are to be installed on the arboretum's 1.8-mile frontage along the East-West Tollway, as well as on Illinois 53, and a new main entrance will be built. Over the next few decades, as the master plan gradually takes shape, the 13 miles of one-way roads through the grounds will be remapped, shortened by one-quarter, and in some stretches opened to two-way traffic. That will make getting around easier for the 300,000 annual visitors, the bulk of whom go to drive through and see the spring bulbs or the fall colors. Eventually they will be able to stop at national park-style visitors' education stations at trailheads located at key spots on the grounds. "We want to get people in here," Donnelly says, "and once they're here, we want to get them out of their cars more."

What they will discover is a magnificent landscape of woods, lakes, prairie,

HOW to GET there

The Morton Arboretum is located at the intersection of the East-West Tollway (Interstate 88) and Illinois Highway 53. Exit the tollway on Highway 53 northbound and drive slowly; the entrance drive is three-tenths of a mile from the exit-ramp.
Hours: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day.
Fees: \$7 parking fee (weekdays).
Dining: A snack bar and picnic area in the visitors' center.
Visitors: Free admission for all visitors.
Map: A free map is available at the visitors' center.
Not a car: Only one car per person.
Spec: No smoking, no alcohol, no pets.
Picking up: No smoking, no alcohol, no pets.
More info: 800-368-2262

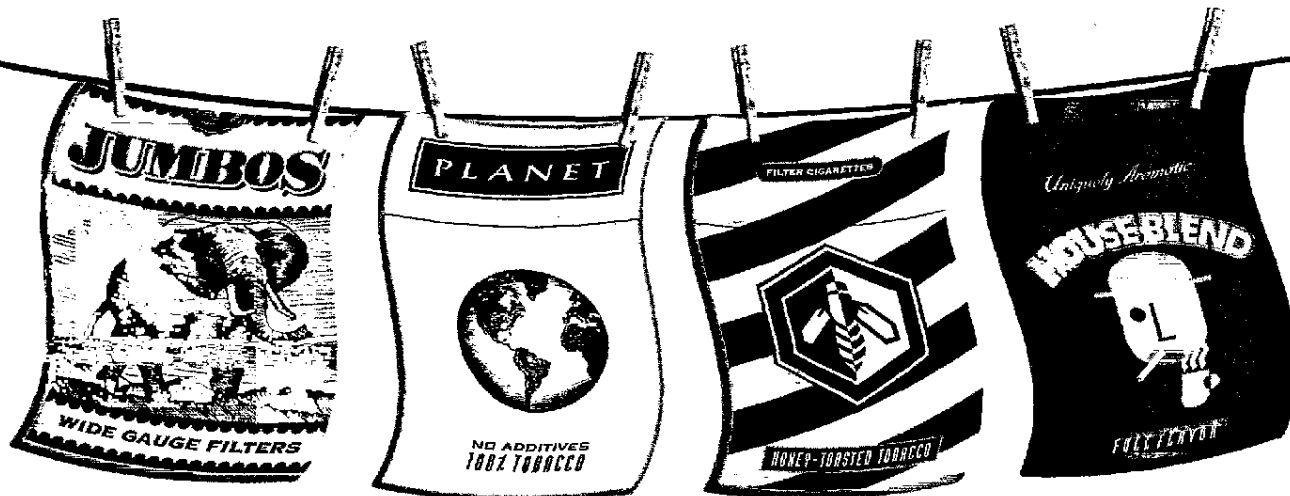
and meadows filled with plants representing at least 3,300 different species. Arranged in fluid groupings rather than in orderly classical rows, the plants appear almost as if they had sprung up nat-

urally, though most of them are actually imports from far-flung parts of the globe. Trees and shrubs from the Balkans, Asia, the Appalachians, and Siberia have been brought to the site, and monitored closely as they adapted—or did not adapt—to northern Illinois's climate and soil.

Until now, the trees and shrubs have been sorted in two ways: by geography, with trees of Europe, for example, all standing together, and by family, with maples grouped in one plot, birches in another. Both classifications are more helpful to the amateur or professional botanist than to the homeowner researching which trees to plant in the yard. Donnelly envisions a third arrangement: trees grouped by their usefulness in the landscape. A person looking to plant a shade tree, for example, would find several good varieties growing together and could compare their looks as well as their need for water, space, and soil. Other groupings might showcase spring-flowering shrubs or trees that could tolerate getting hit with lots of road salt.

"People don't like words like 'marketing,'" Donnelly says, "but that's what

PLANET FULL FLAVOR BOX: 15 mg. "tar", 1.0 mg. nicotine, "B" FULL FLAVOR BOX, HOUSE BLEND FULL FLAVOR BOX: 16 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine, JUMBOS WIDES FILTERS: 17 mg. "tar", 1.2 mg. nicotine, av. per cigarette by FTC method.



SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?
 CALL: 1-800-915-1212



2070494764

we're trying to do—a better job of delivering the wealth of information on trees that we have developed here over 75 years.”

The ground-cover collection, which was redone last year, offers a glimpse of what is to come. This area, just south of the Visitors Center, includes on one sign a color-coded map of the entire display, showing which plants grow best in shade, which in sun, and which in a mixture of sun and shade. More signs denote “naturalistic hedges” and other categories that may interest the casual gardener.

To purists, those who have loved the arboretum for its emphasis on the science of trees without regard to their practical merits in back yards, that is like hanging up signs around the Art Institute that point out which paintings would look best hanging over your couch and which are better for the guest bedroom.

“Maybe it was not a place for everybody, but it was for people who could benefit from serious exposure to the plant collections,” says Ross Clark, curator of education at the arboretum until 1992 and now chairman of the department of biological sciences at Eastern Kentucky Uni-

versity. “It was a place of sub it is becoming more superficial tempt to give the people what

Not all scientists feel the same. Schulenberg, a curator at the arboretum from 1955 to 1987 who led development in the early 1960s of its marvelous prairie, says, “There should have been instructional signs and brochures all along, but [because there weren’t] the public has been left to see it as a pretty park to drive through and look at landscapes. By not getting people beyond that, it has to some degree failed in its mission, which Joy Morton made clear 75 years ago.”

BOOSTING AMERICANS’ INTEREST in trees was Joy Morton’s plain intention when he began converting most of his 1,000-acre DuPage County estate into an arboretum with the planting of 138,160 trees, shrubs, and perennials in 1922. Morton’s father, a Nebraska businessman named Julius Sterling Morton, had himself been a tree enthusiast; he was the founder of Arbor Day and served as the first U.S. Secretary of Agriculture. In

can’t possible.

Joy Morton died in 1934, and as the chairmanship of the arboretum passed through his descendants, the research element flourished. Among the achievements from those years is the “Accolade” elm, a cultivated variety that resists the devastating Dutch elm disease that decimated this country’s favorite street tree earlier in the century. Accolade, developed over three decades by George Ware, a Morton tree breeder who’s now retired, is in the hands of commercial tree growers and may be available for retail sale by the end of the decade.

Still, Charles Haffner III, chairman of the board of trustees for the past 20 years, acknowledges that for several decades the research side of the mission obscured the arboretum’s links to the nonscientific public. He and others hope that the changes now under way at Morton Arboretum will connect it once again with the back yards of America. ■



oilily®

Only women wear oilily® summer 1997

Find our stores in the Chicago area: 900 N. Michigan Ave. Tel: 773-774-1027

Call 1-800-977-7748 for further information or to be placed on our mailing list. Visit our website at: <http://www.oilily.com>

2070494765